



Gary Oldman in "Darkest Hour"

Sally Hawkins in "The Shape of Water"

Kate Winslet in "Wonder Wheel"

NEW MOVIES

'DARKEST HOUR' ★★★

'THE SHAPE OF WATER' ★★★½

'WONDER WHEEL' ★

Tribune critic Michael Phillips' movie reviews in A+E

Chicago Tribune



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017

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CPS 'full-blown cover-up' alleged



BRIAN CASSELLA/TRIBUNE
CPS chief Forrest Claypool on Thursday apologized for "mistakes in judgment."

Emanuel still has Claypool's back amid school ethics investigation

BY JUAN PEREZ JR.
AND JOHN BYRNE
Chicago Tribune

Mayor Rahm Emanuel on Thursday continued to defend his handpicked Chicago Public Schools chief in the face of a searing inspector general's report that accuses district CEO Forrest Claypool of engaging in a "full-blown cover-up" to

ward off an ethics probe.

Claypool "repeatedly lied" during the investigation by denying he had asked an attorney to alter a bill for legal advice on an ethics issue involving the district's top attorney, said Inspector General Nicholas Schuler, who has recommended that Claypool be fired. "I'm not looking at freaking bills," Claypool

said in one interview with investigators, according to Schuler's report.

But "the evidence clearly shows otherwise," Schuler wrote in his report, which CPS made public Thursday morning.

"At every turn in this matter, Claypool kept making matters worse. And it appears that his decisions were driven by a clear desire to keep information harmful to his narrative from the Board, the OIG and the public," Schuler

wrote.

Emanuel, meanwhile, doubled down on his defense of a longtime ally, saying the CPS boss showed character in admitting he had made a mistake.

"There's always two sides, and Forrest deserves the right to be heard, and he's preparing to have that heard," Emanuel told reporters at City Hall. "He acknowledged where he was wrong and took responsibility for it," Emanuel said. "That is a sign of

character. And he did it in a very public way."

Emanuel did not respond when asked whether Claypool's apology came only after he got caught in a cover-up.

Claypool met privately with school board members Thursday and issued a lengthy statement in which he apologized for "mistakes in judgment" while defending his legacy and making it clear he disagrees with

Turn to **Cover-up**, Page 11

Franken says he'll quit over accusations

Minn. Democrat cites 'irony' in dig at Trump, Moore

BY CATHLEEN DECKER
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Al Franken announced Thursday he will resign his Senate seat, falling to a whirlwind of sexual misconduct allegations like those that have enmeshed other politicians, business leaders and media figures across the country in recent months.

In a brief but emotional speech on the Senate floor, with 22 Democratic colleagues and one Republican looking on, Franken invoked the accusations that have swirled around President Donald Trump and the Republican candidate in next week's special election for an Alabama seat in the Senate, Roy Moore.

"There is some irony that I am leaving while a man who bragged on tape



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

Sen. Al Franken made an emotional speech on the Senate floor amid sexual misconduct allegations.

about his history of sexual assault sits in the Oval Office, and a man who preyed on young girls runs for Senate with the full support of his party," Franken said.

The criticism of Trump set the tone for an unusual resignation speech.

Franken's remarks did not include an apology — indeed, he appeared to have pulled back from a

Turn to **Franken**, Page 14

Shootings, homicides drop as law enforcement, community leaders mix different tactics to fight crime in a struggling neighborhood



LOU FOGLIA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Darrez Woody, 8, paints flower boxes in September in an empty lot in Englewood that has become a community space.

New Englewood hope: 'It's absolutely quieter'

BY ANNIE SWEENEY
Chicago Tribune

You can see the change in Englewood in the raw numbers. You can hear about it from the Chicago police commander here, a neighborhood gas station owner or a community leader.

But if you want to feel the difference, stand in the neatly trimmed grass at 66th and Union with longtime resident Asiaha Butler, who will show you how Englewood is already a safer place for her to live.

"It's absolutely quieter," said Butler, who last summer converted a vacant lot on her block to a community space. "I never walked around in a fearful state,



Cmdr. Kenneth Johnson is using new tactics to fight crime in his district, and statistics show they're working.

thinking I was going to be shot, but it's a really great energy now. A great mix of active people. That is what I feel when I am in the community."

Violence in the Engle-

wood police district has dropped dramatically in 2017, with shootings falling 44 percent and homicides down 45 percent over 2016.

It's only one year, experts, cops and even resi-

dents caution.

But it's happening here in Englewood, a neighborhood whose name has long been synonymous with violence, gang warfare, poverty and despair.

During the city's violent 1990s, the district, which includes the Englewood and West Englewood neighborhoods, emerged as a bloody territorial battleground for large street gangs such as the Gangster Disciples. Since then, those super gangs have splintered into smaller factions, changing the dynamic perhaps, but not the outcome. Since 2000, there have been more than 4,800 shootings

Turn to **Crime**, Page 6



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CHRIS DUNN/AP

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Accused student sues NU over sex misconduct case

Right to challenge assault allegations denied, suit says

BY DAWN RHODES
Chicago Tribune

Northwestern University is being sued by a student who contends that the university denied him his right to due process when it concluded that he had sexually assaulted a fellow student and then kicked him out

of school last year.

Filed in federal court in September, the suit argues that Northwestern's sexual misconduct policies so heavily favor accusers that respondents have little ability to defend themselves. He contends that Northwestern's procedures denied him a fair hearing and that the punishment ruined his reputation and career prospects. Neither student is named in the lawsuit.

The case is just one of many across that nation that have put universities in the midst of a roiling debate over how to handle allegations of sexual misconduct in higher education.

Those policies fall under federal Title IX guidelines that date to 1972 and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex at institutions that receive federal funds. For

Turn to **Assault**, Page 9

'BEAUTIFUL — THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL' ★★★½
Chris Jones' stage review in A+E

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